For Immediate Release:

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Statement by Representative Denise Grimsley on Updated General Revenue Estimates Released Today

Tallahassee, Fla. – Representative Denise Grimsley (R-Sebring), Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, today issued the following statement regarding estimates from the Florida Office of Economy and Demographic Research's January General Revenue Estimating Conference.

"As we anticipated, the conference did not make significant changes to the forecast one way or another, indicating forecast stability since our last estimate. Estimators forecast a change of \$26.1 million over the two year period. This represents a change of five 100th of a percent (0.05%) of the anticipated total General Revenue collections over that same time period. This stability provides further assurance that everything is in place at this time for our budget to move forward."

"Today's revenue estimate also confirms that Florida will once again face a budget shortfall. While the shortfall will present many challenges as we prepare for the budget year, closing the gap is not insurmountable. We will once again face many difficult choices as we craft a budget that reflects the House priorities. Delaying these tough choices will not make them go away.

"I look forward to working with my colleagues on the House Appropriations Committee and I am confident that we can once again balance the budget in a fiscally responsible and timely manner."